1

G. R. S. 58]

Previous references.
Edn. 9-15. Pl. 64 + 136.

File No. 9-15.

1915-16.
(Edn.)

Serial Nos. 152 + 1

Later references.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

P

Serial Nos. 152 + 154.

Part B for April, 1916.

SUBJECT.

Re: Hostel for Jahagirdars' boys in the State

Serial 154. To Haribhanji Esqr.
Rajkot. Kathiawar.
no. 6217. d 27.4.1916.
Informs that there is no necessity for such a hostel at Mysore

W D 1851—GPB—20,000—18-12-15

11/5/16.

2

G. R. S. 11] 1915-16

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(Edn.)

NOTES.

File No. 9 - 15

FILE HEADING.

Hostel for Jagirdars' Boys in Mysore.

From

The Inspector General of Education.

No. 19309/807 Dated 28. 3. 16 Received 4. 4. 16.

Diary No. 3814 | Enclos. 1 file Spare Copies. | Serial No. 152.

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

With ref.ce to this office No. 4507/Edn. 9-15-136 & 9. 3-16, states that there is at present no necessity for a hostel for jahagirdars' boys at Mysore,

NOTES AND ORDERS.

The I. G. of Edn. further states that scholarships are being given to the sons of Palegars, and a Boarding House is being generously maintained by His Highness and that the very few boys who are sons of big jahagirdars wishing to study can be

NOTES—First Sheet.

GPB—20,000—3-8-14

G. R. S. 12]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | Edn File No. 9 of 1915.

Serial No.

easily accommodated in the existing hostels attached to the Colleges and High Schools.

2 A draft order recording & intimating the above to the Hon'ble Secretary of the All India Jagirdar's Association Kathiawar is sub'd for approval & other orders

EA 7/4/16 3 Draft approved & orders

Sd/ 8/4

4 Please put up a copy to the men who made the report

Bin 5 Draft 10/4/.. 10/4

6 Draft sub'd. EA 12/4/16 12/4/16 Sd/

7 Draft approved 13/4

8 Please put up a clean draft

Bin 15/4/. 17/4

9 Carried 17/4

10 Clean draft sub'd. for approval. EA 17.4.16 17/4 Secy. 18/4

Men Bin 18/4/. 19/4

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

G. R. S. 12]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | File No. 4 of 1915.

Serial No.	
	To
154	Harbhanji Esqr. Hon'y. Sec'y Rama Villas Rajkot No. 6217. d 27.4.16. Kathiawar. Informs that there is no necessity for such a hostel at Mysore.

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—70,000- 17-12-15

DIARY No. 3814

19-19

SECTION Edn

FILE No. 9-15

SERIAL No. 152

Edn. 15]

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF EDUCATION IN MYSORE.

No. 10309 / 807 Expile

Bangalore, 28th March *191* 6

From

Rao Bahadur
M. SHAMA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,
Inspector-General of Education in Mysore.

To

P. G. D'SOUZA ESQ., B.A., B.L.,
Secretary to the Government of H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
Education & Agriculture *Departments.*

SIR,

With reference to your letter No.4507/Edn.9-15-136 dated 9th March 1916 forwarding for disposal or report, a letter addressed to His Highness the Maharaja by the Honorary Secretary, All India Sardars' Talukdars' and Jahaghirdars' Association, requesting among other things that a hostel may be opened at Mysore for Jahagirdars' boys in the State, I have the honour to inform you that there is at present no necessity for a hostel to Jahaghirdars' boys at Mysore.

Scholarships are being given to the sons of Palegars and His Highness is generously maintaining a Boarding House for boys of the Ursu community. There are very few boys who are sons of big Jahagirdars and such of them as wish to study can be easily accommodated in the existing hostels attached to the Colleges and High Schools.

The enclosures are herewith returned.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

M. Shama Rao.

Inspector General.

TNR.

DIARY No. 2220
19-12
SECTION
FILE No. 9-15
SERIAL No. 64
OFFICE OF THE PRIVATE SECRETARY
564
- 4 DEC. 1915
TO H.H. THE MAHARAJ OF MYSORE

Rawa Vyllas
Rajkote C.S.
Kathiawar
29-11-1915

To

His Highness
The Maha Raja Saheb
Mysore

Your Highness

As Honorary Secretary of the All India Sardars, Talukdars and Jahagirdars' Association I approach your Highness with this appeal for your sympathetic support.

The aims and objects of this Association are mentioned in its Rules and the work done by it only in one year is shown in its First Annual Report. Besides the misunderstandings created by mischief doers are properly

properly and rightly explained in a detailed statement (A. B. & C).

Such an uphill task of the amelioration and regeneration of the Jahagirdars (Landholders) depends entirely on the good will and generous help of Chiefs like your Highness.

Your Highness can do an immense good to the fallen nobility of the whole of India (1) by getting your worthy name enrolled as a Patron or a Sympathizer of this Association under Rule 70; (2) by opening a Hostel at Mysore for Jahagirdars' boys; (3) by introducing Panchayet system among Jahagirdars of your State to settle disputes; (D); and (4) by closing liquor shops in your territories.

I therefore humbly venture

venture to make this request for Your Highness' kind and favour-able consideration and I respect-fully submit that the All India Jahagirdars' Association will be greatly obliged if your Highness would be pleased to grant all or any of the above prayers.

I have the honour to be
Your Highness' most obedient
Servant
Harbhamp
Honorary Secretary All India
S. T. & Js' Association

A

9

ALL-INDIA SARDARS' TALUKDARS' AND JAHAGIRDARS' ASSOCIATION RULES.

I. OBJECTS.

1 The objects of the Association are :—

(A) To encourage and facilitate proper education among Jahagirdars.

Note—Education means education that is being given by various educational institutions in the country, plus :

(a) Religious and moral.
(b) Management of an estate.
(c) Agriculture.
(d) Drill.
(e) Shooting.
(f) Riding.

(B) To attempt to introduce Panchayet system among Jahagirdhars to settle disputes among themselves.

(C) To preach temperance to them.

(D) And general improvement of land.

Note — The word Jahagirdar includes hereditary landed proprietors holding revenue paying land, as its owners, under any tenure.

II. FORMATION OF THE ASSOCIATION.

2 The Association will consist of two separate Bodies :

(I) Central, and (II) Provincial.

3 As far as possible all Provinces in India will be represented, and attempts will be made to include all Districts, Talukas and States in each Province. But if in any District, Taluka, State or division of a State, there are not sufficient number of Jahagirdars willing or able to start branch of their own : or if for any other reason no branch can be started there ; any individual Jahagirdar or Jahagirdars living within such District, Taluka, or State etc. can, if they wish, become members of the Association, by expressing their desire to do the same to the Honorary Secretary.

4 When it is decided to open a branch of the Association in any Province, the first thing to do would be to appoint the Central Body, for that Province.

5 Central Provincial Bodies will be the Provincial representatives of the All-India Association.

III. MEMBERSHIP.

6 Maximum number of members of the Central Committee for each Province will be settled later on according to the size and importance of the Province.

7 Members of the Central body will be considered members of the Local Body of the Province to which they belong; provided they pay local subscription if so required by local rules.

8 They will be eligible to become members of the Local Managing Committee as well as the Central Managing Committee.

9 In the beginning Central Committees will be formed of willing Jahagirdars coming forward as members for the same. But afterwards any Jahagirdar who desires to become a member of the Central Body must apply in writing to its Secretary expressing his desire to be enrolled as such, either direct or through the Secretary of the Local Body. In the latter case the Provincial Secretary will forward the application to the Secretary of the Central Body, with full particulars about his eligibility. In the former case the Secretary of the Central Commlttee will make all necessary enquiry through the Provincial Secretary before enrolling his name.

10 The members of the Central Body will be required to pay an annual contribution of Rs. 10 each.

11 No more money will be asked from the members, except donations.

12 The annual subscription to be paid by the local members will not exceed Rs. 5.

13 Money so subscribed will be used for local purposes only.

14 This money will be taken in cases where it is found necessary to do so by local members for purposes mentioned in rule 65 (m).

15 Before a member is enrolled he must pay his annual subscription.

16 The annual subscription must be paid every year in advance.

17 Any member desirous of resigning his membership may do so by applying in writing to that effect to the Secretary.

18 If a member resigns he will not be entitled to refund of any donation or subscription that he may have paid.

19 The office bearers or any of them may be re-elected at the General Meeting.

IV. MEETINGS.

20 Annual general meeting of the Central Body will be held once a year at the place and on the date fixed by the Executive Committee.

21 One month's notice of the meeting will be given to all members by the Secretary.

22 If there is any urgent business the Secretary may convene a special meeting after giving fifteen days' clear notice at the requisition of five members.

23 The quorum of the general and special meetings will be settled later.

24 If there is no quorum the meeting will be postponed till the next day. But if there is no quorum on that day also, the members present will proceed with the business.

25 Local Bodies will hold their meetings previous to that of the Central Body and will send their suggestions, recommendations, ect. to the Central Body for the consideration at the time of their annual meeting.

26 Local Bodies will send their delegates to the Central Committee at the time of their annual meeting.

27 The Local and Central Bodies will try and request some Raja, Maharaja, or other eminent person to preside at the time of their annual meetings.

28 Work to be done at general meetings will be :—

(i) To read and pass the past year's report with any remarks that may be necessary.

(ii) To examine and pass the accounts.

(iii) To pass the next year's budget submitted by the Executive Committee.

(iv) To arrange for funds for the next year's budget.

(v) To read and discuss proposals prepared by the Executive Committee or sent by the members, pass them and to decide which of them should be taken up by the Executive Committee next year.

(vi) To elect officers and members of the Executive Committee.

Note— All the Officers must be members of the Association. At the time of the first meeting, it must be decided what officials would be necessary and what should be the number of the Executive Committee and how are they to be elected.

(vii) To amend and revise rules, if necessary.

(viii) To do any other works for the interest of the Association.

29 The officials of the Association will also hold the same offices in the Executive Committee.

V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

30 Executive Committee of the Central Body will consist of members including the officials.

31 They will frame rules to carry on their business.

32 The Executive Committee shall hold three meetings in a year.

33 Fifteen days' notice of the meeting shall be given to the members.

34 For any special business the Secretary may convene a special meeting after giving 15 days' notice to all the members.

35 Five shall form quorum of the ordinary as well as special meeting of the Executive Committee.

36 The Secretary shall send with the notice, an agenda of the work to be transacted and members will be requested to send their opinions in writing if they can not be able to personally attend the meeting at least two days before the date fixed for the meeting.

37 The correspondence and proceedings of the Central Body shall be kept in English.

38 The Chairman will have a casting vote.

39 The proceedings of the General Meeting and Executive Committee both general and special and those of the sub-committees if any appointed for any special purpose, will be conducted in the same way as such proceedings are usually conducted.

40 Any member of the Executive Committee may resign at any time after giving a month's notice.

41 In case of resignation, death etc, of any of the office-bearers the majority of the other members of the Executive Committee may elect one out of themselves for the remaining portion of the term.

42 The terms of office of the office-bearers will expire every year at the time of the General Meeting. But they will continue to work until their successors are elected.

VI. ESTABLISHMENT AND POWERS.

43 There will be the following establishment for the Central Body :—

(I) Paid secretary on Rs.

(II) Clerk on Rs.

(III) One accountant on Rs.

(IV) One peon on Rs.

44 The Honorary Secretary will have the power to grant leave to, and fine or suspend the servants of the Association subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

45 The servants of the Association.

(I) will not be entitled to any sort of leave for more than a month in a year, and

(II) will not get sick leave with half-pay for more than a month.

46 The appointment and dismissal of the servants will be in the power of the Executive Committee.

VII. FINANCES.

47 The Executive Committee will control the finances of the Association, subject to the budget provision passed by the General Body.

48 They will arrange to open proper banking account, with some respectable banker or bankers, where current account of the Association will be kept ; surplus fund, if any, will be invested in proper security in the name of the Association.

49 Ordinary expenditure will be incurred and money drawn on the authority of the Honorary Secretary.

50 Extraordinary expenditure which must be within the budget estimate will be incurred on the authority of the Executive Committee and the money drawn on the signature of the Honorary Secretary.

51 All money belonging to the Association should be paid to the Secretary of the Association.

52 If any member of the Executive Committee or any office-bearer has to travel on any work in connection with the Association, except attending its annual meetings, he will be entitled to the following charges :—

(A) Double the Railway fare according to the way he usually travels.

(B) Four annas a mile for journey by road, and two rupees a day, for days spent in travelling and also for days of detention for work.

53 No member shall stay more than a week at any one place without special reasons.

54 If the paid Secretary has to travel for any business of the Association, he will be entitled to second class double fare for himself.

55 If he has to travel by road he will get two annas a mile. His daily allowance for the days on which he travels, and also for days of detention for work will be annas eight.

56 Clerks and peons will get 3rd class railway fare, actual cart-hire, and annas three per day, for the days on which they travel as well as for days of detention for work.

VIII. SUB-COMMITTEES.

Finance Committee.

57 The business of the Finance Committee to be appointed by the Executive Committee will be :—

(I) To examine and pass the accounts at every meeting, and report the same to the Executive Committee and generally to control the income and expenditure.

(II) To prepare the Budget and submit it to the Executive Committee for approval.

(III) To see that donations, subscriptions, and other money belonging to the Association are regularly and promptly received, and properly and duly credited in the manner directed by the Executive Committee ; and that the surplus fund is properly invested, as directed by the Executive Committee.

(IV) Secretary will pass receipts in the name of the Association to members paying donation, subscription etc.

(V) All work connected with the finances of the Association.

Note—The Finance Committee will bring to the notice of the Executive Committee all non-payments six months after they are overdue. Till then every effort must be made to recover the money.

58 The Executive Committee may appoint special sub-committee or committees for specific purposes.

59 All the sub-committees must work under the control and supervision of the Executive Committee, and they must submit their progress reports, with accounts of expenditure etc. to the Executive Committee at every meeting.

60 The Accounts must also be preserved.

IX. GENERAL.

61 The Secretary will have the authority to refuse to enroll any Jahagirdar or group of Jahagirdars as members of the association or to remove any member or group of members on good ground, such as default in payment of subscription or other dues, or any other reasonable ground.

62 His Majesty the King-Emperor will later on be requested to become the Imperial Patron of the Association.

63 His Excellency the Viceroy and the Provincial Heads in whose Province, the Association commences its work, will be requested to become its patrons. The Prince or Chief in whose State the Association is started or who has otherwise assisted the Association will also be considered its Patron.

64 Each Provincial Body will form its own rules of procedure subject to the approval of the Central Body, fix the number of members required for its managing committee, settle what establishment, if necessary, will be wanted for its work, appoint and dismiss etc. the same, and arrange for its expenses.

65 The business of the Central Provincial Bodies in their respective Province will be :—

(A) To form local bodies in the various Districts or States and to supervise their work.

(B) To endeavour to establish one or more hostels in the various Districts or States within the Province.

(C) To take deputations to the authorities concerned.

(D) To assist in the supervision of the hostels, if desired by the authorities to do so.

(E) To assist as visitors of the hostels, if desired by the authorities to do so.

(F) To suggest, if so desired, what special religious and moral etc. education should be given to the boys in the hostels.

(G) To suggest any improvement in education, management or discipline etc. in the hostels, if desired to do so.

(H) To endeavour to collect funds for opening of new, or betterment of existing hostels.

(I) To endeavonr to obtain scholarships for the hostels, and to manage the same, if desired to do so.

(J) To employ preachers (Updeshaks) to preach temperance, and Panchayet for settling private disputes, wherever it is thought advisable to do so.

(K) To endeavour to form Panchayet wherever people are ready and willing and where the authorities are desirous of doing so.

(L) To assist, advise and supervise the work of Updeshaks and Panchayets.

(M) To endeavonr to collect funds for the expenses of Updeshaks, and contingent charges, establishment charges and travelling charges etc. of Updeshaks, the local and central bodies, and their members.

(N) To manage or to arrange for the management of the above fund.

(O) To frame rules and regulations for the management and expenses of the Association.

(P) To do all and any other work in the interest of the Association.

66 The business of the Managing Committee will be to manage the affairs of the Association generally, to see that the objects of the Association as mentioned in rule (65) are carried out properly and promptly; also to carry out the resolutions passed by the Body at the time of their annual, ordinary or special meetings; to manage the finances to the best advantage of the Association and to do any other act in the best interest of the Association.

67 All the proceedings of both ordinary and special meetings of both General and Executive Committees shall be recorded and signed by the President or Chairman as the case may be, and preserved as the record of the Association.

68 Any member or other person willing to assist the cause of Jahagirdars can at any time pay donation to the Association for general use, or for any particular purpose.

69 Any member paying Rs. 1000 and upwards as donation will be enrolled as a patron.

70 If any person shows a desire to sympathize with Association he will be enrolled as a sympathizer on payment of Rs. 1000 as donation. If any person pays a donation of Rs. 5000/ and upwards, he will be enrolled as patron.

RAWA VYLLAS
Rajkot, Kathiawad
11th February 1913.

Kumar Shri Harbhamji Rawaji
of Morbi
HONORARY SECRETARY
All-India Sardars' Talukdars' and
Jahagirdars' Association.

500-1-1914.

B.

17

Rawa Vyllas
RAJKOTE, *Kathiawad*
28-1-1914.

SHORT SUMMARY OF THE FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ALL INDIA SARDARS', TALUKDARS' AND JAHAGIRDARS' ASSOCIATION.

PATRONS.

H. H. the Maharaja Saheb of Kishangadh.

OBJECTS.

The Association is started with the idea of regenerating the fallen nobility and aristocracy of the Country and its main objects among others are :—

(1) To encourage and facilitate proper education among Jahagirdars.

Note—Education means education that is being given by various educational institutions in the Country, plus :—

(a) Religious and moral
(b) Management of an estate
(c) Agriculture
(d) Drill
(e) Shooting
(f) Riding.

(2) To attempt to introduce Panchayet system among Jahagirdars to settle disputes among themselves.

(3) To preach temperance to them.

(4) And general improvement of land.

The Association is to be divided into Provincial sections ; each province having its (1) local body to look after local interest, and (2) Central body to look after general interest.

The central bodies of the various Provinces will jointly form the whole working body of All India.

The local bodies are to work on their own lines under their own Chairmen and Vice Chairmen, with rules of their own, under the general supervision and guidance of the Central body.

The maximum number of members of the Central body from each Pro-

vince will be settled according to the member and importance of the landholders living in the Province. At first the members of the Central body will be selected from the leading persons, in each Province but as time goes on and desire is created among the local bodies in any Province to elect their representatives to the Central body that course will be adopted in that particular Province.

SYMPATHIES OF GOVERNMENT OFFICERS AND PRINCES AND CHIEFS.

The matter of starting this Association was submitted to His Excellency the Viceroy, whose gracious approval of the same was communicated through his Private Secretary Sir James Du' Boulay K. C. S. I. in his letter dated the 7th August 1912.

After this, heads of various Provinces and Adminitrations were approached and their entire sympathy and approval was obtained.

The names of those who have specially encouraged the workers of the Association are given below:—

(1) The Agent to the Governor General Central India, Indore.
(2) The Agent to the Governor General Rajputana, Mount Abu.
(3) The Chief Commissioner Central Provinces Nagpore.
(4) The Commissioner Ajmer —Merwara.
(5) The Agent to the Governor in Kathiawar, Rajkot.
(6) The Political Agent, Jhalawad.
(7) The Political Agent, Halar.
(8) The Political Agent, Bundelkhand.
(9) The Political Agent, Bhopawar Agency.
(10) The Political Agent, Baghelkhand.
(11) The Political Agent, Bhopal Agency.

So far we have not had time to approach most of the leading Princes and Chiefs on the subject. But among those few whom we could approach the following have kindly shown their appreciation of our objects :—

(1) H. H. the Maharaja of Rutlam.
(2) H. H. the Maharaja of Sitawan.
(3) H. H. the Maharaja of Orchha.
(4) H. H. the Maharaja of Bijawar.
(5) H. H. the Maharaja of Jhabua.
(6) H. H. the Maharaja Saheb of Indore.
(7) H. H. the Maharaja of Dungarpur.
(8) H. H. the Maharaja of Kishangadh.

We are greatly indebted to these high personages for their sympathy with our work.

SECTIONS.

(1) Bombay.

The Association was first inaugurated on 20th October 1912; and the Bombay section was started on that very day. I worked as its Honorary secretary and we had 51 members of the Central body and all the members of Kathiawar, Gujarat and Cutch Girassia Association joined as its local members. We have in the Bombay section 2613 members of the local body.

(2) Rajputana.

In this section there are 20 members of the Central body. The Rao Saheb of Kharwa—Thakore Gopalsinhji—and I, work as its joint Secretary.

(3) Central India Agency.

In this section there are 14 members of the Central body; and about 30 members of the local body. The Thakore Saheb of Panchaid, Thakore Raghunathsinhji is the Honorary Secretary.

(4) Punjab.

We were very hopeful about starting our Branch in the Panjab, as Honorable Sardar Daljitsinhji the Secretary of the Punjab Chiefs' Association gave us great hopes; and His Honour Sir Micheal O'Dwyer, the Lieutenant Governor of Punjab is much interested in this work, Sir Micheal assisted us greatly as Agent to the Governor General in Central India; and we have every hope of his support in Punjab. Unfortunately there appears to be some misunderstanding in the matter among the Punjab leaders which it is hoped will be cleared very shortly. In the meantime we have obtained promises, of some of the leading men of this Province to join us.

(5) United Provinces.

Thakore Dheanpalsing the Honorary Secretary Kshatrya Upkarini Maha Sabha undertook to work the United Provinces Section for us, but on account of heavy work he could not do much, subsequently Honourable Raja Kushalpalsing of Kotla kindly interested himself in this matter.

Since the close of the year I had the honour to approach His Honour Sir James Meston the Lieutenant Governor of these Provinces who has given us hopes of his full support, and we therefore are assured of success in these Provinces.

We hope with His Honour's active sympathy and good work by the Ho-

nourable Raja Kushalpalsing in Agra, and Honourable Raja Rampalsing in Oudh, we ought to show good result next year.

(6) Central Provinces.

The Honourable the Chief Commissioner Sir Benjamine Robertson is very sympathetic. In this Province the Honourable Sir Gangadhar Chitnavis is our chief supporter. Unfortunately his being very busy with the Imperial and Local Council's work, and my time being taken up in other parts of the Country we could not show much work, but we hope to show some progress this year.

A little encouragement from Sir Benjamine in this Province, which is assured to us, is bound to go a great way.

(7) Bihar and Orrisa.

In this Province also we have a few members but it still requires working up.

The main work therefore during the year has been the formation of the Provincial Sections, in different Proviuces and the same will be the case for next year or two till the Sections in the various Provinces are formed and properly organised. This is the most difficult and uphill task. But when once this is properly done then there will be easy sailing.

We have not merely spent our time in formation of different bodies, but have done some actual work, which compared with the newness of the idea and short time at our disposal and long distances to travel, is very satisfactory.

With the full sympathy and approval of the Honourable the Agent to the Governor General Rajputana Sir Elliot Colvin ; and sympathetic support of the Commissioner of Ajmere Mr. Holwe, we were able to launch the scheme of a Coronation Hostel at Ajmere.

We had hired a building, and collected a portion of the fund, and very nearly got the boys ready, when unfortunately that part of the Country was visited by famine and we were obliged to put off the actual opening of the hostel for a few months.

These hostels are meant for the poorer class of Jahagirdars who cannot afford to send their boys to more expensive institutions. The object of these hostels is not only to give such boys facilities of accomodation but at the same time it is intended to keep the boys under proper control. They will live in these Hostels, and get their education in the existing schools. They will, as funds permit, be given special religious and moral training, and eventually arrangements will be made to teach them riding, drill, shooting etc. In short every at-

tempt will be made to keep them away from undesirable influences and they will be trained to become strictly loyal subjects of the Crown. A Hostel has been started at Kotah on these lines with the kind sympathy of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb.

We have every hope that the other Chiefs will kindly start similar institutions in their States.

In Central India Agency there was a good Hostel started lately in Rutlam, under the kind patronage of His Highness the Maha Raja Saheb.

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb Holkar has kindly promised to start a hostel at Indore.

Also His Highness the Maharaja Saheb of Orchha has promised a hostel in his State.

We have aslo hope of a few more hostels in Central India Agency. Some of the Chiefs are inclined to take up the matter, only a little encouragement and support is wanted from the Political Officers, and the Agent to the Governor General to expedite the matter. I have every hope of support from the Honourable Mr. Bosanquett the Agent to the Governor General Central India whom I intend to approach shortly.

Major General His Highness Maharaja Sir Pratapsinhji has done more than any one esle in this respect and we are all greatly thankful to His Highness on account of this. Lately Barot Keshrisinhji from Kotah has taken up this subject of education, and he is going to work in Jodhpur under the kind support of His Highness. We wish him every success.

In this part of the Country i. e. Kathiawad and Gujarat we have managed to get eight hostels started. Last year Major Harold, Political Agent Jhalawad took much trouble and interest in his Prant to start new hostels. He was recently transferred, but we hope that if the same interest is continued by his successor we are bound to have more such institutions in Jhalawad Prant. In Gohelwad Prant Major Meek arranged to start a hostel at Babra. In Halar Prant there was a hostel started at Rajkote in the beginning of the year by the Thakor Saheb of Rajkote. The institution is working well.

PUNCHAYETS.

The other matter taken up by the Association is to get disputes among Jahagirdars settled amicably through Panchayets of their own and thus save them from ruinous litigation.

Major Harold took great troubles to introduce this system in Jhalawad

Prant, but before he could sufficiently advance in the matter he was unfortunately transferred.

Some of the Girasias are very anxious to see this system started among them. And it is hoped that the authorities will kindly take up the matter in right earnest and I feel certain that if properly worked it is sure to succeed and is bound to be a very great boon to the Community.

There is no doubt that in many interested quarters this move is most unpopular, and no stone is left unturned to bring it into the eyes of the authorities, that both this and the Hostel scheme are unworkable.

But if proper support is given I am perfectly ready to show most satisfactory results in a short time.

To my mind these two matters are of so vital importance in the interest of the Jahagirdars that not a day should be lost in working them up.

Of course, authorities will have to work under many odds, but if the present interested obstacles are removed success is certain. Personally as said above I am prepared to be useful in any way that I can.

In this connection it is most encouraging to find that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor of the United Provinces Sir James Meston is much interested in the matter.

I hope that with proper care and unceasing work we ought to show good results in a comparatively short period. The only two things that we require is active sympathy and full support of the Provincial authorities and hearty co-operation of the local leaders.

HARBHAMJI

HONORARY SECRETARY
All India Sardars,' Talukdars'
and Jahagirdars' Association.

Misunderstanding and misgivings about the attempt to improve the condition of (Jahagirdars) LAND-HOLDERS explained.

In connection with the All India Sardars', Talukdars' and Jahagirdars' Association, which was started little over a year ago, it is found that though the scheme is generally approved by every body, yet there is a certain amount of misunderstanding and misgiving in the minds of a few persons who either do not know the full facts and the real objects of this institution, or are misinformed by others who are themselves either ignorant about these facts or have prejudices of their own.

Under any circumstance it seems very advisable in the interest of all, that any doubt that is brought to notice, should be thoroughly explained to the best of our ability, for the satisfaction of those few persons who have in reality not properly understood our true motives. Of course, as far as those, who by themselves are in a microscopic minority but who for fears or motives of their own, will not look at this question without suspicion under any circumstantces, no amount of reasoning will have any effect on their prejudiced minds. Although even in such cases we on our part are perfectly prepared, if asked, to thoroughly discuss their doubtful points with them and attempt to convince them that we are working not only in the right direction but in the only possible line, under the peculiar circumstances existing in the Country.

If once it is satisfactorily established that our object is good, and the line that we have adopted in attaining this object is also proper, then there should be no questioning the results. But even after these facts if the results that we acquire are not proper, then the fault necessarily lies with the agency employed to carry on the work. In that case the objection by any person, if it is sincere, ought to be against the workers of the institution and not the institution itself. And if that is so, every endeavour may be made to change the workers of the institution, and they should be replaced by other proper men. But it would not be wise to attack the institution itself for the folly of undesirable workers.

The objects of the Association are:—

1 To encourage and facilitate proper education among Jahagirdars,

Note:—Education means education that is being given by various educational institutions in the Country plus:

(a) Religious and moral

(b) Agriculture

(c) Drill

(d) Shooting

(e) Riding

2 To attempt to introduce Panchayat system among Jahagirdars to settle disputes among themselves,

3 To preach temperance to them,

4 And general improvement of land.

Note: — The word Jahagirdar includes hereditary landed proprietors holding revenue paying land, as its owners, under any tenure.

Surely there can be no objection to any one of those four objects. Nor can there be any doubt about the urgent necessity of each and every one of these objects in the real interest of both the landholders (Jahagirdars etc) themselves as well as of the Government and the Chiefs to whom these people are subordinate.

It is for this very reason that most of the leading officers of Government in this Country, who undoubtedly are very eminent statesmen of the time, have not only approved of the scheme, but have promised their sympathy and support ; and many of them have already actually done so. Among the Chiefs several of them whom we had opportunities to approach personally, have showed similar desire to assist us ; and so far some of them have acually assisted us, or are on the way to do so.

There are really very few Chiefs, who though they have had the opportunity to hear us personally what our objects were, are yet for some reasons of their own, continue to express dislike for the very existence of the Association, and this inspite of the fact that the Association does not concern itself with their particular States.

With all respects for such biased opinions, our earnest prayer to such personages is to kindly wait and see the results in Government territory or in other States where we are fortunate enough to obtain permission to start our work, and then judge of the Association and its work from such results, and not misjudge us merely on suspicion.

The Association for this very reason to avoid such bias, starts its work only in those States where the Chiefs' permission is first obtained.

The Association on its part looks upon all Chiefs with equal respects and is anxious to secure sympathy and support of as many Chiefs as possible. Hence it considers its first duty to explain any doubt that may be raised by any person of position.

Land holding classes all over the world hold a very peculiar position among all the communities living in any Country, and more so in the East where feudal system exists in all its bearings. They were much in demand in the olden days of constant warfare. But now in these peaceful times their utility of the olden

type has totally disappeared; and hence a misconception would seem to have arisen that they are now of little or no use. They have therefore been so far entirely neglected. But the result of this neglect and its disastrous consequences have already been brought home both to the leading British statesmen in this Country and to many of our more reasonable and advanced Chiefs. And they on most careful consideration, have become sensible to the advisabilily of bringing about better results through an upto date institution like the All India Association, among the so far sadly neglected aristocracy of the Country.

In their preliminary proposals the starters of this movement naturally anticipated many obstacles; and one of the principal one was the unfortunate present day suspicion in the minds of the authorities of some of the States among whose subordinate Jahagirdars this institution was to work.

For in a very large majority of petty States the ruling element itself is not sufficiently advanced in their views, even to fully grasp any such idea of general improvement of the Contry and the eminent necessity in their own interest, to have upto date aristocracy, that would always be ready by their side, to most heartily assist them in their real welfare, which assistance can never be expected from their present day, hired underlings whose main object in life generally is (as daily experience teaches us) to create disunion among the Chiefs and their families as well as their subordinate Jahagirdars. The abovesaid underlings thereby gain their objects of enriching themselves through various mean devices of their own which they can not do if there was unity in the States, among the Chiefs, their families and the aristocracy. Any movement therefore to improve the condition of Jahagirdars and any attempt to bring them nearer to their Chiefs is most distasteful to the said subordinate underlings and, through their machinations, to some of the weakminded Chiefs, who are very much under their influence.

As regards more important States the idea of thus improving the subordinate Jahagirdars is in the first instance novel to most of the Chiefs. At the first sight neither they nor their ministers see the necessity of any such movement in the Country. They prefer to be left alone. For they say that they are already working in the ordinary groove and this is enough to give chances to their Jahagirdars to improve themselves in the same way as other subjects of their States do. In some cases they have Nobles Schools of their own, and the idea is that these by themselves are enough to create a body of well educated nobles in the States, and therefore nothing more is needed.

Again there may be a few among the Chiefs both small as well as big, who unfortunately for themselves as well as for their subordinate Jahagirdars look upon any advancement and improvement of the Jahagirdars with any amount of misconceived jealousy and alarm, though in order to show themselves to be upto date

rulers, their outward appearances are quite different. Luckily for the Country rulers of this type are comparatively few.

Large number of landholders, enjoying their lands on different kinds of tenures, are in British India. Their position, as far as need for improvement is concerned is very nearly identical with that of their brethren living within the jurisdiction of our States. But in their cases there is not only no prejudice or suspicion in the minds of high Government Officers, against any legitimate move like this to improve their condition, but on the contrary all such movements, if well considered, and properly organized, receive every consideration, sympathy and support at the hands of the heads of Government as well as their immediate subordinates, though it must be said that in some cases in detailed working of any scheme local prejudices and under current of suspicion and opposition are met with from lower subordinates. But such obstacles are easily removed by explaining matters properly to higher officers.

In dealing with the common interest of all this huge body of landholders in this vast continent of India, living under different jurisdictions and varied circumstances, the promoters of the Association have a most difficult task before them and therefore they have to be most careful to see that no legitimate outside interest suffers, and yet at the same time the landholders' vital interests are properly safe-guarded, while various prejudices and jealousies, both studied, and those due to ignorance, are duly respected and tactfully and patiently but determinedly and successfully met, as far as possible to the satisfaction of all concerned.

To start with, to avoid all suspicion and unnecessary opposition, the first principle that was followed was that the work of the Association should not be started in British India or any State, without the permission of the ruling authority, previously obtained.

For this purpose beginning was made by first obtaining the approval of His Excellency the Viceroy; and then, as far as possible, heads of the Provinces were approached and their sympathies obtained and promises for support secured.

In case of the States some of the Chiefs were approached and their sympathy and support obtained.

In this way during a short space of about fifteen months several Chiefs have been pleased to allow the Association to start its work within their States. And there is every hope that others will follow if properly approached, and others again when they see the good work done by the Association in their neighbouring States.

The four objects of the Association are such that no reasonable man can

have any objection to any one of them, on the score of its being of a political or objectionable nature. They are all purely social and non-political matters.

Still to further satisfy the susceptibilities of our rulers and to give them no cause to have any prejudice against the work of the Association, it is also our practice that if any Chief objects to any one or more of these four objects we undertake that these particular objects will not be introduced among the people belonging to his State.

Inspite of all these precautions, against the work of the Association being misjudged, one or two Chiefs through, I believe some pure misunderstanding, have expressed their feelings against the Association on the ground that one of the objects of the Association is to approach the Chiefs in deputation on behalf of the Jahagirdars under him, in order to obtain redress of any common grievance that these Jahagirdars may have against the State. That this might lead to an undesirable combination and they therefore consider the work of the Association to be detrimental to the interest of the States.

Now with all due respects to all such unfortunately biased opinions, which in some cases are so created by mischievous or interested surroundings, that they look upon any even genuine move on the part of the subordinate Jahagirdars, to improve their condition, or obtain proper redress of any wrong though wilfully done, with extreme jealousy, and undeserving suspicion, it here need only be pointed out that a careful perusal of the aims and objects of the Association, ought to satisfy that no such thing as getting grievances redressed through deputations is mentioned in them. This very fact clearly shows that any false suspicion on this score can but be the farfetched imagination of mischief mongers, whose great object in life, in their own supposed self interest but at the same time to the great detriment of the States and the Chiefs, is to keep the rulers and the ruled at miles distance from each other.

Above being the true facts, there ought to be no misgivings on the minds of any sensible ruler on this score.

In the true interest of all, if this question is properly considered, it cannot but be admitted by any reasonable person that there is nothing more important and desirable than to make every possible attempt to bring about better relations between the rulers and the ruled. And one of the great means to secure this end is to induce, and lead the Jahagirdars to believe in and approach their own rulers, to obtain redress in a conciliatory way, and therefore through deputations, and to disuade them as far as possible from resorting to Law Courts and ruinous legal expenditure.

But having full experience of the peculiar, strange and unaccountable sus-

ceptibilities in these socalled political matters in the minds of most of our present day Chiefs and their principal advisers, it was thought prudent not to include this subject of conciliatory deputations, among the objects of the Association. Though to my mind it is certain that (as has been the case with the sister Association of Kathiawar, Gujarat and Cutch), as time goes and experience is gained, there will be desire all round to bring about better feelings between the rulers and the nobles, and then as a means to bring about this result, there will first be the wish and then the demand to attain this most desirable object through conciliatory bodies like our All India Association.

The following quotations from the speeches of some of the leading persons in the Province made on different occasions will show how the Girassia Association of Kathiawad, Gujarat and Cutch slowly but steadily gained confidence of the authorities. This Association was in its early days looked upon with much suspicion by almost every body, and there was a cry of dissent from every direction. But straight, tactful and persistant working has brought about the desired results of creating better feelings. And as time goes on, its work will be still more appreciated; and in course of time if properly guided, it ought to be the main instrument in improving the condition of the Province generally; provided it receives the necessary encouragement and support that it naturally needs from persons in authority, the Chiefs and their high officers:

1 Honorable Mr. Prabhashankar Patni C. I. E., the late Diwan of Bhawnagar State, and just now a member in the Executive Council of H. E. the Governor of Bombay, presided over the 6th annual meeting of the Girassia Association held at Bhavnagar on 20th April 1912. He was Diwan at Bhawnagar at the time and in the speech delivered by him he remarked:—

> " It is my duty as a State Officer to know in the interest of the public, what the Girassia Association is, and what is the nature of the work it is doing. × × It appears (to me) that Kumar Shri Harbhamji has commenced a very praiseworthy task, to improve the condition of the Girassias. × × The object of the Association is evidently to find out means to remove this (inherited) idleness from the Girassias. The Association has already commenced to take steps to remove the present defects of the Girassias. It is an open secret that to try and settle their disputes amicably is a matter of benefit to them. By so doing *disunion* will decrease, expenses will be saved and unity will be strengthened. In days gone by Giras was acquired by strength of sword but in these days, not only that Giras cannot be acquired by sword but it cannot be even kept up by the strength of sword. You can preserve

your Giras in these days by education only. Because it is only by education that people can properly understand what Giras is, what are their rights and what should be called or considered usurpation of Giras or their rights; not only that but education is the only proper means to direct the ways to improve the Giras. × × Undoubtedly this is due to their ignorance and their usual inclination towards litigation. These litigations are of two kinds; — first is that among themselves and the second is that which they have with their States. The Association has considered and believed that to get such disputes settled amicably through Panch, is a good way in assisting to improve your condition; and the Association has already taken in hand this remedy. On such occasions the Association is prepared to assist you free of charge. It is not the idea of the Association to fight out your cases in the Law Courts for you in the capacity of your lawyers. But their (aim) is to get your disputes with your brethren or with your States or both settled amicably. × × Still I must tell you in matters of both these kinds your money will be saved both directly and indirectly by the help of the Association. × × But they misuse that money; that is to say they spend their money (even thus obtained) in litigation and in filling the pockets of pleaders. Instead of doing this it would be better if they pay their trivial subscriptions to Kumar Shri Harbhamji (for the Association) and then get their disputes amicably settled through him by Panchayets; not only this but those under this State who spend their money unnecessarily in order to recover their Choth money (from the State); and through their own fault in one way or other bring troubles on themselves, can easily be saved from this trouble; for arrangements can be made by which they can receive their Choth money at their own homes. × × The Association had requested H. H. for assistance in the Famine Fund for the poor Girassia widows and a Hostel for Girassia boys. I have already informed Kumar Shri Harbhamji of what has happened in these matters upto date. This State is always ready to do all it can for the good of its other subject communities; therefore I am sure that you being nearer to the State, the State will do all the more for you."

2 Darbar Shri Vajsur Wala presided at the Provincial Meeting of the Girassia Association held at Porbandar on 17th August 1912 when he was Administrator of the Porbandar State and in the speech delivered by him remarked:—

" × × But this doubt was removed when I saw that with the excep-

tion of an ordinary cultivator, any person whose source of maintenance is land is eligible to become a member of the Association. × × Ordinarily speaking I myself belong to your class, and therefore it was really incumbent on me to be conversant with the extent to which the Association had slowly succeeded in the work undertaken by it, in the interest of our community. × × During what little time I had at my disposal I have hurriedly gone through your past reports. From the perusal of them, I was satisfied to find that, the first impressions, in some places, that the Association would teach the subordinate Girassias, and Jivaidars to act against or to have feelings against, the authorities of their States, have been now removed; and the real object of the Association, is now properly understood, and therefore State officers now show their sympathy towards it. I wish this Association every success, with all my heart, in its attempt to bring about better feelings between the States, and their subordinate Bhayads, Girassias and Jivaidars, instead of increasing bad blood between them; and further for its having undertaken the duty, which really was that of the States themselves to save these અંગભૂતો (part and parcel) of the States from the fear of their ruination through various causes. × × Instead of merely becoming members and paying annual subscriptions, and then leisurely anticipating good results of their own accord, you should act according to the advice of Your President who has been working disinterestedly for your salvation. Do not again fall into lathargy from the awakening brought about by him, and be ready with all your might and money, to help him in the ways suggested by him for your advancement; then, be sure, God will help you. × × Save yourselves from these pitfalls; acquire education, including moral and religious; keep clear of intemperate habits; get your internal disputes settled amicably, and if you cannot arrange this yourselves, get them settled through Panchas and thus save yourselves from the expenses of Courts, save yourselves from indebtedness by keeping control over the extravagant expenses in marriages etc; and thus slowly improve your condition; and in these times of peaceful British Rule make yourselves fit to do your duty and be really useful to the State as one of its component part."

3 Major C. F. Harold, Political Agent Jhalawar Prant presided at a meeting of the Wadhwan Thana Talukdars and Bhagdars held in Wadhwan Camp on 1st November 1912 and in the speech delivered by him remarked:—

" As K. S. Harbhamji will explain to you one of the causes of your loss of power and loss of material means is the evil of family litigation

which has prevailed among you, your substance has been wasted in the Law Courts of land and where a particular Girassia has gained anything by these means he has only done so with the loss of family ties and family stability and friendship. His gain becomes the cause of future jealousy and bitterness in the brotherhood. Material means thus wasted can be preserved to you if all such disputes were settled amicably by you. K. S. Harbhamji will explain to you the scheme he proposes to adopt. That scheme has my full approval and I hope it will meet with yours. But your tacit approval is not only required. Practical evidence of the working of the scheme is required. In this way will you save your patrimony to educate yourselves, for by education alone can you become a power in the State and retain your position as the landed gentry of India."

4 His Highness the Thakor Shaheb of Rajkot presided at the gathering of the Girassias held on 25th November 1912 for the purpose of opening a Hostel for the benefit of the Girassia Students and in declaring it open expressed his good wishes for its future progress and success. Mr. H. B. Kotak, Dewan Saheb of Rajkot, in replying on behalf of His Highness said:—

" The Girassia Association has rendered admirable services to the Girassias in general for which K. S. Harbhamji deserves all praise and gratitude of the Girassias. His Excellency the Viceroy during his present tour in the course of various speeches has offered valuable counsels to the ruling Chiefs exhorting them to do all that lies in their power to help their Bhayats and aristocratic classes who are the pillars of their States. In their prosperity lies the well being of the States. Hence it is not the least surprising that His Highness takes due interest in furthering the welfare of his own Bhayads. Until the time the Hostel becomes self supporting His Highness will continue to make an annual grant of Rs. 500 in aid of the institution and will further award scholarships to intelligent, active and diligent students."

5 Major C. F. Harold, Political Agent Jhalawar Prant, presided at a meeting of the Dasada Talukdars and Bhagdars as well as of the Jhinjhuwada Bhagdars held at Dasada on 7th December 1912 and in the speech delivered by him remarked:—

" TALUKDARS AND BHAGDARS—I have asked you to come here today to hear K. S. Harbhamji. He will explain to you his scheme of settling disputes among Girassias by Panchayets composed of Girassias. This scheme has my full approval. K. S. Harbhamji's object is to prevent you wasting your substance in long litigation which also brings in its

train very often a long family feud as one family may gain something through the Courts at the expense of the others. Also by thus wasting your substance, your material welfare, your influence and your position all become worse. Thus your time and life are wasted—life time which ought to be spent in good work. Thus too your money is wasted—money which ought to be spent on the education of your children and improving your estates. Unless you wake up you will fall behind in every thing. Your children ought to be educated to fill high positions, under Government and in the Native States, but now a days it is very hard to find well educated Girassias for high positions. Therefore unless you bestir yourselves and work on the lines of K. S. Harbhamji's advice—your class is bound to go on deteriorating and will in a few years lose all the influence and status, it once was the proud position to hold in India."

6 Major W. M. P. Wood, Political Agent Halar Prant, graced with his presence the seventh annual meeting held at Rajkot on 16th January 1913 and in the speech delivered by him remarked:—

" To you Girassias—my advice is that you should trust your cases to arbitration. This method will save you lot of trouble and expense. The arbitrators of your own class know the ins and outs of your ways. × × You Girassias represent the old aristocracy of Kathiawar. × × Therefore give up your bad habits and be men, you become Rajputs as your forefathers were. Be real workers. × × The Rajputism is contained only in your behaving and working like your predecessors. × × If you are educated you can manage your own estates and you cannot be cheated by your Kamdars or other men. Thus the education is very essential for your own interests and for those of your children. if you are educated you wont waste your energy after small quarrels which often lead to large disputes and which result in better feelings."

7 Major C. F. Harold, Political Agent Jhalawad Prant presided at a meeting of the Muli Bhayats held at Muli on 10 February 1913 and in the speech delivered by him remarked:—

" × × You should not addict to liquor and opium. For thereby you ruin your body and money. Your children will suffer because they inherit your vices, bodily weakness and indebtedness. You have to think of your own education as well as that of your children. You have also to do your duty to your estate and to your own Raj, you should be loyal and faithful to your Raj and also to the British Government. × × K. S. Harbhamji has been working for you for the last 7 years. Have

you done any thing for your own interest? Have you helped him? × In old days there was Panchayet to settle disputes. The virtues of old times are gone. All other classes are improving while you are going down. × × "

8 Major N. S. Coghill, Political Agent Mahikantha, wrote on the 11th February 1913 thus:—

" × × I appreciate most highly the honour you have conferred on me in asking me to preside at your meeting at Sadra. × × As you know, however, I sympathize heartily with the aims and objects of the Association, and I am very pleased to see that it has made such rapid progress during the last few years. × × "

9 Mr. H. B. Clayton, I. C. S. Political Agent Rewakantha, wrote on the 13th February 1913 thus:—

" Thank you for letter of 6th and for the honour you have done me in asking me to preside at the meeting of the Girassia Association at Godhra on 22nd. Unfortunately I have long standing engagements at Dohad and still farther from Godhra at that time and so I fear I must refuse the invitation. I wish the meeting all success and hope you will communicate to me the results of the Conference."

10 Mr. Rothfield, Collector of Broach District, wrote about 17th February 1913 thus:—

" Your proposal that I should preside at the Girassia Association meeting is felt by me as a great honour and I should ordinarily have been very pleased to accept. At present, however, I feel that I cannot do so in justice either to you or to myself. × × I must therefore with many thanks decline the honour on this occasion. I should be very glad to hear that it were possible for the meeting to do something towards limiting expenses on marriages and funerals as was done in Rajputana and, if this were feasible should be very glad to assist in any way possible."

11 Major General His Highness Maharaja Dhiraj Sir Pratapsinhji Bahadur G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., Ruler of Kashmir Jammu presided at a provincial meeting of the Girassia Association held at Rajkot on 8th May 1913 and in the speech delivered by him remarked:—

" As we learnt this morning Prince Harbhamji has taken great pains in promoting the cause of Rajputs and the Girassia Association. All should follow his noble example and without any consideration of greatness or smallness should work as equals as all members of Societies

are equal without any difference whatever. The workers should be encouraged and all intrigues scrupulously avoided. Members should work hard for their Association and should not feel jealous of their workers but help them. I shall take interest in the Girassia Association in future and hope that especially Jam Saheb and Thakor Saheb of Rajkot and all other Princes will take keen interest in the movement. × ×
I also thank Jam Saheb, Prince Harbhamji and others, and hope that they will take keener interest in the Girassia Association and Kshatriya Upkarini Maha Sabha and will exert their best to increase the intermarriage relations, social reforms, temperance, education of Kshatryas and their unity."

12 His Honour Sir James Meston, K. C. S. I., Lieutenant Governor of the United Provinces, wrote on the 16th January 1914 thus:—

" I am greatly obliged for your most interesting letter of the 1st inst. with its description of the efforts which your Association intends to make for the advancement of the Kshatriya Community. In so far as your operations will extend to the United Provinces, they will have my whole hearted support and I will do anything in my power to help you. You seem to me to be moving on wise and cautious lines; and if you can secure, that enthusiasm is maintained and sagacions counsel followed, I am sure that the rising generation will have every cause to bless you. The idea of having separate Kshatriya Hostels at our leading Colleges and schools, with moral instruction and careful supervision, has my entire sympathy."

Note:—This shows how high officers like L. Gr. appreciate such movements.

13 Honourable Mr. R. P. Barrow, Commissioner Northern Division wrote on the 1st April 1914 thus:—

" I regret that as I shall not be in Ahmedabad on the 5th instant I am unable to accept the Girassia Association's invitation to preside at their meeting to be held in Ahmedabad. I should be only too glad to do anything in my power towards helping the Girassias of Gujrat and Kathiawar in their move forward."

14 Major N. S. Coghill, Political Agent Mahikantha, presided at a provincial meeting held at Sadra on 8th April 1914 and in the speech delivered by him remarked:—

" I am very glad of the opportunity kindly offered to me by my friend, your worthy President Kumar Shri Harbhamji, to be present at your meeting here today and to assure you of my sympathy with the objects

of your Association, and to express my appreciation of the results already achieved. I like it that the main objects of the Association are:—Education and Social reform; and these 2 summarize all its activities to and for the benefit of Girassias, and are indispensably bound up with its progress. As was remarked the other day by one of the Prant officers in Kathiawar on a similar occasion the day of the sword is gone, so that now the small landholders cannot increase their giras at the expense of their weaker neighbours and by constant subdivision the original giras is being reduced to very small proportions. Hence there is greater need than ever for an Association, whose object is by education to fit the Girassias to earn an honourable livelihood apart from the land and to become useful and worthy citizens. Without Social reform however the condition of uneducated Girassias cannot be lucidly improved and so long as intemperance, early and frequent marriages and extravagance continue to be countenanced by the majority of the Community, their progress towards a higher civic status must be long delayed. I have been glad to see, however, from the last annual report that the progress made by the Association though slow is steady and it is gratifying to find that arbitration has been employed successfully in 21 cases and that the Hostels continue to do good work and that many Girassias have signed the pledge of temperance. I may say here that I thoroughly approve of the ideals underlying the activities of the Association and that I will only be too pleased to further them by using means in my power and I hope that your meeting here has borne and will bear good fruit. I will now conclude by these few remarks wishing continued and ever increasing success to the Association, and that its President may long be spared to carry on his beneficent labours for your benefit."

Same must be the case with the All India Association all over the Indian Continent, provided it is worked on similar lines, and receives similar encouragement and support from Government officers and Princes and Chiefs in the Country.

One important matter must not be forgotten when dealing with this subject. It is this that in a Country like India with its personal Government and feudatory system, Association of Jahagirdars is more easily controllable than that of any other body of men. For in case of an attempt on the part of Jahagirdars to show even any indifference towards the authority of their superiors, they can easily be checked by attachment, or in serious cases, removing them from their Jahagirs which are their only means of maintenance.

Thus Jahagirdars in case of misbehaviour are the easiest to be controlled.

But on the other hand if they are properly trained and *handled* kindly and tactfully they are a most useful body of men.

It is not only the want of any training whatever among this class of men, but the total absence even among most of those few people who call themselves educated, of proper training, to make them fit and loyal nobilities of the Country, which is one of the chief subjects to be taken up by this Association, and therefore it needs and deserves every support from persons in authority.

But unfortunately for us all, instead of this support, what we find in most cases is either total or partial indifference about this all important subject in the minds of persons who are really in a position to do some good.

So far as mentioned above in most places matters are allowed to have their natural course, that is ordinary institutions are opened, and Jahagirdars are left to themselves to take advantage of them or not as they chose; in others either on their own initiative or through the instrumentality of the Association special institutions are started for the use of the nobility. But in no case any attempt seems yet to have been made to give the boys proper education to make them desirable and fit leaders of the public; and useful and loyal Nobility of the Country. This the Association is attempting and will attempt to do as funds and opportunity permit. A very careful consideration of the subject will convince any reasonable person that there is no other way of bringing about this most desirable general result. For it may be possible that a few progressive States may try to do this independently of the Association. But looking to the Country as a whole no such general improvement can be attained without combined effort of all; and that through an organized body like the Association.

Unfortunately some overcautious people are suspicious of any combined efforts even for such eminently desirable purposes. But as explained above any undesirable combination of Jahagirdars in such matters is most easily controllable, so much so that it is entirely in the power of the authorities to smash it at a moment's notice.

If as some people would wish, the Jahagirdars are left to themselves they will either remain illiterate or get undesirable education and in either case they will be a dangerous element, to the public as well as to the States and Government, for they will be easily misled in case of immergency by mischief mongers. But if they are properly trained their case will be different.

It is a great misfortune that in some unfortunate cases, the authorities of States make a show of being just and upto date and give out publicly and express much anxiety before Government officers, of their great desire to improve the state of things existing among Jahagirdars subordinate to them and some even go so far

as to make ostensible exhibitions of attempt in this direction, but their innermost desire is to see their nobility remain totally illiterate, so as to be an easy prey to their ambition to slowly extend their territories at the expense of such unfortunate persons. Such cases, even though they be few are quite enough to create mischief in the cause not only of their own States and that of their brother Chiefs, but of the whole Indian Nation, by quietly trying to poison the ears of others against any legitimate attempt to improve the condition of Jahagirdars. They can do this by surreptitiously attributing all sorts of false motives to this new body, i. e. the All India Association, which in reality has the vital interest of all at heart.

To such persons our most respectful prayer is that if they really wish us to keep aloof from their Jahagirdars they should withhold from giving permission, or even withdraw any permission that they might have given, to the Association to work in their States.

But with all respects for their opinion, we beg earnestly to assure them that time is not far, when they themselves will, on mature consideration, and from what results they will see in other States, change their opinions, and will become advocates of the cause of this very body; on which they are just at present looking with great suspicion.

To further safeguard the interest of all concerned and minimize the undeserving and farfetched suspicions of persons in authority, the Association is kept merely as an advising body. It is to have no hand or authority in the actual working of any institution started through its instrumentality. For instance in case of education, it will preach the Jahagirdars to educate their boys; it will request the authorities, to start hostels in various parts of the Country; it will try and obtain funds and scholarships etc for them from the Government, Princes and Chiefs, as well as from well-to-do Jahagirdars and others; it will advise what special education should be given in these hostels in order to create loyal, contented, and useful Jahagirdars in future; and it will if desired, advise about the proper working of these hostels; but beyond this it will have no concern or interference in the actual management of them.

In the matter of Panchayets, it will, where permitted, preach the cause of Panchayet system, and if desired help in formation of the same. It does not want any hand in its actual work.

Same way, in the matter of temperance, and other improvements, it will be merely an advising body and therefore it cannot in any way be harmful to any one. On the contrary it will be most useful to the authorities, in helping them to bring about the most desirable reforms among the principal community subordinate to them.

Here there is a spontaneous desire, to create a body that will be so tremendously useful to the authorities, in bringing about the most desirable reforms; and yet at the same time it will be a body consisting of some of the most leading, and advanced men of the Country; a body that will have the real interest of not only the most important but at the same time one of the most backward Community, at heart; a body which is most loyal at heart; a body that wishes to be merely an advising body and does not want to have any authority, hand or interference in the actual working of various institutions created through its instrumentality on the lines recommended by it for improvement of the Jahagirdars in the Country. Moreover that body is such that the whole of it or any group of it can most easily be controlled by even the mere whim of the authority superior to them, on the pain of sudden and total ruination, in case of least offence.

This body is being created at a time when if no such steps are taken, on the line suggested by it, and things are allowed to drift as they are doing at present, the consequence will in all probability be either the creation of a discontented and disloyal nobility, if educated under the existing circumstances or an illiterate and therefore irresponsible body; either of which eventually is most undesirable.

Hence it is that strong efforts must be made all round to encourage and assist this body by all well wishers not only of the Jahagirdars, but of the States, and the Government as well as those of the whole Indian nation.

Here is an opportunity that no ruling Chief in India ought to lose. For the wise British statesmen have very rightly declared their non-interfering policy in the internal affairs of their States. Now is the time when they should wake up to the real necessity of their States; and introduce such measures by which they can bring up their nobility and aristocracy to the level of advancement, of the other public if not higher, and thereby evolve them into a useful, contented and loyal body of men and through them and other loyal and advanced subjects of their own, build up a strong fabric of their administrations and then come up to the level of justice and fair play of the neighbouring British territory and thus prove to the Government, that the confidence reposed in them by the Sarkar was properly placed and was not misdirected. For in my humble opinion any misuse of power must in the end naturally have its disastrous consequences; though in its early stages it might induce the idea of "Let us make hay while the sun shines."

I hope the above explanation is enough to satisfy any fairminded person to see to the necessity and advisability of having a body like the All India Sardars', Talukdars' and Jahagirdars' Association. But if any body has still any doubt about it, I humbly request such person to kindly give me an opportunity to personally explain such doubt and I hope to satisfy such person in an openminded discussion that our work is in reality in the entire interest of the States themselves.

So far I have written with respect to the Association itself. But I find that some people, either being misinformed, or through mischievous motives, have been spreading false reports about my alleged acts as affecting the relations between the Chiefs, and the Jahagirdars subordinate to them. I being the Honourary General Secretary of the Association they mix up the Association with my acts and thereby they try to gain their mischievous and selfish, though in reality self condemned object of keeping the Jahagirdars totally illiterate by poisoning the ears of good people against the Association itself. Really speaking no act of mine in my private capacity ought to affect the Association, simply because I happen to be its Honorary Secretary. Under such circumstances if the allegations are true then all that is necessary in the interest of the Association is to remove me from the Secretariship. Of course, truth is truth after all. But any false report coming apparently from people situated in high position must necessarily have though temporarily, its mischievous effect on some of the simple minded persons.

The nature of the rumour is that though the Association declares that one of its object is to bring the rulers and the ruled closer to each other; yet its actions are such that it sets up the Jahagirdars to fight their Chiefs.

Such a report is to say the least a most mischievous falsehood; creation of some ingenuously gup manufacturing brain.

In justice to the Association it must be said, that any such act of encourgeing the Jahagirdars in their disputes with their Chiefs is not a matter which the Association can take up, even if it wished to do so. For such matters are quite out of its scope.

But supposing for the sake of argument that it was one of the declared objects of the Association to support its members in their claims against their Chiefs, would any reasonable body of men ever dare to set up these Jahagirdars against their Chiefs and thereby be the cause of cutting its own throat? I would respectfully challenge any person to point out a single concrete example, answering such description.

There was one instance given by a high person, in which he said that I myself worked up a Jahagirdar to fight his Chief.

First of all even if that was the case, as said above any action on my part in my private capacity can have no effect on the Association. But in this particular case, the facts are these:—

There is some dispute between a certain Prince and a certain Jahagirdar under his jurisdiction. The Jahagirdar is neither a member of our Association, nor can he become one. For we have yet not obtained his Prince's permission to start the working of our Association in his territory. I have

known both the Prince and the Jahagirdar since some years. I am therefore trying not to make them fight but to bring about better feelings between the two, and that too with the permission of both the Prince and the Jahagirdar and with the approval of Government authorities. Have I done anything wrong? Even if I have acted wrongly how is the Association to be blamed for my actions!

I feel sure that this explanation of mine will satisfy my friend, if he is a fairminded person.

My humble request to all truth seekers is kindly not to believe, or advance such mischievous rumours, before they have satisfied themselves about their genuineness and accuracy, and thus save themselves from deception and bad names, and the Assocition from false attacks.

Rawa Vyllas.
RAJKOT, *Kathiawar*
19-4-14/22-5-14.

Kumar Shri
Harbhamji Rawaji
of Morbi.

Rawa Vyllas
Rajkot
22-10-12.

DRAFT.

PROPOSED RULES FOR INTRODUCING LOCAL PANCHAYETS TO SETTLE DISPUTES, BETWEEN JAHAGIRDARS, OF CIVIL, CRIMINAL AND REVENUE NATURE, OUT OF COURT IN THE MOST INFORMAL WAY POSSIBLE.

Preliminary.

1 When in any Taluka, Thana or State, or any such division of a District, a fairly large number of leading Jahagirdars, i.e. land-owners of any tenure, are desirous of introducing Panchayet System, to settle disputes of Civil, Criminal and Revenue nature among themselves, they should apply to the Head of the District, State, etc., in which such Taluka etc. is situated, for the same.

2 Such Head on being satisfied of the genuineness of the desire mentioned above, shall convene a meeting of the Jahagirdars living within the area concerned.

Constitution.

3 At the time of the first meeting the District Head will explain to the Jahagirdars present, the advantages and disadvantages of the Panchayet System, he will then form groups of Jahagir villages situate within the area concerned, and appoint willing and able Jahagirdars living within each group to be the members of the Panchayets of such groups.

4 The number of members for each group will not be less than five and more than seven, unless there is special reason to appoint more.

5 The group members will elect a Sir Panch from among them.

6 Every five years the Head of the District etc. will hold a fresh meeting to appoint new group members, and if necessary revise the groups etc.

7 In doing this wish of the Local Jahagirdars should be considered; and wherever they express a desire to do so, their votes will be taken.

8 In reappointment or reelection the old members would be eligible to be appointed or elected.

9 Any number thus appointed or elected may resign at any time after giving three months' notice.

10 Any member may be removed by the District Head on his being found unwilling or unable to work, or found guilty of any heinous offence by any competent Court, or if the majority of Jahagirdars in his group desire his removal.

11 In case of resignation, removal, death etc. of any member, the District Head will appoint a new one, who will work till the expiry of the period of the other members.

12 Register of these groups and the members will be maintained in the District office, and will be corrected from time to time as found necessary.

13 Register of the work done by each group will be maintained in the District office.

14 Annual Report of the work done should be submitted by the District Heads to the Local Government, or State etc. to which they are subordinate.

15 In these reports good work should be mentioned and deserving members be granted certificates and titles, rewards etc.

16 Working members of the Panchayets should be specially honoured by their being granted certificates, showing that they are members of the Panchayet of such and such group.

Powers.

17 (a) All cases of civil nature both moveable and immoveable upto the value of Rs. and all cases of partition, division, Motap, encroachments of land, maintenance of widows, and spurious and illegitimate children irrespective of valuation, arising within the limits of any group or groups, between Jahagirdars of the same or different groups shall be heard by the members of that group or one of the groups selected by the parties. In case of difference of opinion, as ordered by the District Head.

(b) All compoundable cases of Criminal nature, triable summarily, shall be heard by the members of the group or one of them selected by the parties in which such cases arise. In case of difference of opinion as ordered by the District Head.

(c) All cases of Revenue nature (limit) same as (a) and (b).

(d) Any case of Civil, Criminal, or Revenue nature that does not come under (a), (b) or (c), but is specially referred to the Panchayet by the District Head.

Procedure.

18 All cases mentioned above in article (17) will be first presented either orally or in writing to the Sir Panch of the group concerned.

19 If such cases are presented to any Court or Officer, the Court or Officer shall return the same with an endorsement to the effect that the parties must approach the Panchas concerned.

20 The Sir Panch on receipt of a case, shall number it and enter it in the Register kept for the purpose.

21 If the Sir Panch is of the opinion that the matter is beyond his jurisdiction he will make an endorsement to that effect, both on the case as well as in the register and return the case to the party presenting it.

Note—In case of oral representation entries mentioned in articles (20) and (21) will be made in the register only.

22 When the case is taken up by the Sir Panch, he will call all the Panchas and the parties.

23 Both the sides will have every right to object to the Panchas and Sir Panch, or any one or more of them, without giving any reason for the same.

24 The parties if they like may appoint Panchas and Sir Panchas, or any one or more of them, of another group.

25 If the Sir Panch of another group is appointed the case will be transferred to that group.

26 If the parties cannot agree to any of the Panchas or Sir Panchas, the matter will be referred to the District Head who after hearing what the party objecting has to say, give his order as to who should take up the case; this order will be final.

27 The panchas will make every attempt to study the case from both the sides, and by their own influence and pursuasions and those of the friends and relations of the parties, reduce the difference between the parties to the narrowest possible limits.

After that, if necessary, hear the parties and record evidence of the parties and take any documentary evidence that the parties may produce, and give their award.

28 If they cannot agree each must give his separate award.

29 Copies of the award will be given to each party.

30 After the award is given and copies granted to the parties, entries of the same will be made in the register, and papers sent to the District Head for the award being registered in that office and for the papers being kept in the record.

31 There will be no appeal against an award given unanimously by the Panchas, unless it is proved that they have acted fraudulently in which case their decision will be set aside and the matter referred to another Panchayet.

32 If there is no agreement between the Panchas in giving the award an appeal will lie within one month to the District Head, whose decision will be final.

33 No court, process and copying or any other fee of any kind whatever will be levied in cases before the Panchas or in appeals against their decisions.

34 No lawyer will be allowed to appear before the Panchas, nor will any lawyer draft, any application, representation, written statement to be presented before the Panchas.

35 No lawyer will be allowed to appear in any appeal against the awards of Panchas or in execution cases of such awards.

36 In case any Court refers any case cognisant by that Court to the Panchas, all court fees etc. paid by the parties will be refunded to them.

37 In case the Panchas find it necessary to obtain presence of any witness, whom the parties themselves cannot produce, or require any one to produce any document, they should do the same through the District Head. Parties requiring the same will pay the cost.

38 Execution of the awards by the Panchas will be carried out at the instance of the District Head, by the subordinate Courts having jurisdiction.

39 No court or process or any other fee will be levied by such courts for such executions.

40 In case of difficult law points that may arise in any particular case before the Panchas, they might refer the same to the District Head for opinion.

41 The District Head should refer the same to a committee of lawyers for opinion whose opinion should be final, unless fraud or misbehaviour is proved against them.

42 For each District or group of District, the District Head or Heads will appoint a committee of three lawyers, whom such questions of law should be referred for opinion. They will be paid for each reference, by the party on whose behalf the reference is made, a fair remuneration settled for every reference by the District Head.

43 All India Jahagirdars' Association will, wherever necessary, move the local Jahagirdars to apply for introduction of Panchayets among them. It will also approach the authorities for the same.

It may wherever necessary approach the Provincial Heads, Local and Imperial Governments and Princes and States with request to pass rules and regulations for the guidance of the Panchayets and to give certificates, titles, rewards etc. to the members of the Panchayets for their good work.

44 The word "District Head" means and includes District Magistrate, District Judge, Collector, Deputy Commissioner, or other Heads of the District, Political Agent, Prince or Chief of a State and in case of a big State, Heads of each division of the State.

45 If the Sir Panch so requires the parties should deposit in advance money sufficient to cover contingent expenses such as stationery, copying and writing charges etc ; at the time of giving their award the Panchas will deduct from the money advanced by the party whom they consider liable for the same, render him full account of the expenses and return the balance to him and take his receipt for the same. They will also return the money deposited by the other party and take its receipt.

46 The money so received together with the account of expenses and the receipts of repayments will be entered in the register.

47 Registers will be renewed every year and the old registers should be sent to the District Head immediately after the expiry of the year for inspection and examination of the account and then being kept in the record room.

48 Girassia Association, Kathiawad, Gujerat and Kutch will give advice and assistance to the authorities and Girasias information of the Panchayets and to the Panchas in their work, whenever required, within its sphere of action.

Kumar Shri
Harbhamji Rawaji
of Morvi.

45

G. R. S. 26

SUBJECT.....

Diary No. of letter replied to 3874

Section Edn.
File No. 9 - 15
Serial No. 154

General and Revenue Secretariat
( )
, the 191 .

No. 6217.

Date of issue 27-4-16.

Signed by Mr. G. Kalasingam

To Harbhanji Esqre,
Honble Secretary, Rawa Vyllas, Rajkote C.S.,
Kathiawar.

Sir,

In reply to your memorial dated the 29th November 1915, addressed to H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore, requesting the opening of a hostel for the sons of Jahagirdars in the state, I am directed to state that Govt have noted your request. At the same time, I am to inform you of the facilities

over.

now existing in the state for the education of members of this class. A Boarding House is maintained by His Highness for boys of the Ursu community; scholarships are given to the sons of Pallegars; and it is understood that there is no difficulty for sons of Jaghirdars to obtain accommodation in hostels which are maintained at a high standard.

I have &c,

Sd/-
Offg Secretary to Govt,
E & A. Depttt.

Memo:- No. 6218-87-27-8-Ed-7-16

Copy of the above is forwarded with compliments to the Dy. of Edn. with reference to his letter No. 19309/807 of the 28th March 1916.

P. U. D.
List of enclosures.

By Order,

Sd/-
Offg Secretary to Govt,
E & A. Depttt.

Copied by

Examined by

01/1913

47

Conf.ce of schp. to
M. Narasimha Iyengar
in the V.J.T. Inst., Bombay.

G.R.S. 28]

Diary No. of letter replied to

Confn no 71 5270 Edn
8/7/4/16

File No. 15-15
Serial No. 52

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.
( )

, the 7 R 191 .

Date of issue 30-3-16.

Signed by Sd. K. Sahba Rao

READ—

G.O. no 2915-6/Edn: dt 17.2.15 sanctg. as a spec case, a ~~technical~~ schp. of Rs. 20 p.m. for one year only from 1st July 1914, to M. Narasimha Iyengar, for studying Sanitary Engineering in the Victoria Jubilee Tech. Inst., Bombay.

2. Correspce. ending with letter no 5582/246 dt 20.9.15 from

over.

ORDER THEREON.—No.

SUBJECT.

48
2

D.P. of Edn. in Mysore

recommending that the Schl. Sanctd. in the G.O. read above may be continued for another year from 1st July 1915 the charge being met from the balance of Rs. 600 available out of the provn. of Rs. 840 for Pallyar & Mahomedan Hps. in the Edn. budget of 1915-16.

Order No. 54-54-5

Sanctioned.

Dy. Ex. A.

30/9

To the D.P. of Edn.

4 Complete through Pr II

7/1

22.1.16